

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 13, 2022

The Honorable Brian Schatz
Chairman
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Transportation,
Housing and Urban Development
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Susan Collins
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Transportation,
Housing and Urban Development
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Schatz and Ranking Member Collins:

As you begin consideration of the Fiscal Year 2023 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development (THUD), and Related Agencies Appropriations bill, we strongly encourage the Subcommittee to continue the Federal government's commitment to community development programs at the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and support \$4.2 billion in formula funds for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program.

The CDBG program is one of the Federal government's most effective means to revitalize low- and moderate-income communities across the country. The program's flexibility allows communities to design and implement strategies tailored to meet local needs and priorities. CDBG funding supports homeownership, housing rehabilitation, infrastructure improvements and economic development, while also providing public services for seniors, youth and people with disabilities.

Every state has received CDBG funds, and over 1,200 state and local governments currently receive annual CDBG funding directly. CDBG makes its way into the local economy through an extensive network of local organizations and remains a lifeline for families and communities across the country. Moreover, these funds encourage additional local investment, with every \$1.00 of CDBG funding leveraging another \$3.64 in public and private investments. We share your commitment to the most effective use of taxpayer dollars and believe that these grants have proven highly effective at meeting the unique needs of local communities.

CDBG Strengthens Families and Communities through Homeownership. CDBG funds are used to assist creditworthy, working families with down payment and closing cost assistance to purchase a home. Homeownership stabilizes neighborhoods, allows families to build assets, and adds to the local tax base. Communities may use CDBG funding for lead-based paint testing and abatement, among other activities. Since FY05, CDBG was used to provide safe and affordable housing to over 1.7 million low- and moderate-income households.

CDBG Builds Local Infrastructure. CDBG funds are used by communities for infrastructure improvements, including safe drinking water and sanitary sewer systems, street improvements, and the development of child care centers and health clinics that provide health services and

dental care to low-income children. Since FY05, CDBG public infrastructure improvements have directly benefited nearly 52 million low- and moderate-income people nationwide].

CDBG is a Jobs Generator. Through economic development activities, including microenterprise assistance, direct assistance to businesses, and the development of public facilities, CDBG has created or retained 491,557 jobs across the country.

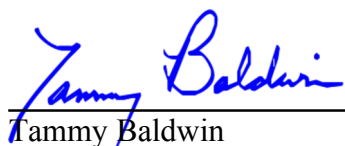
CDBG Helps Seniors Live Independently. CDBG funds are used to rehabilitate the homes of low- and moderate-income elderly persons to allow them to age in place, thereby avoiding costly assisted living and nursing home care. Further, CDBG funds are used to build senior centers to allow seniors to receive health and recreational services to stay engaged and healthy.

CDBG Invests in Our Next Generation. Local communities use CDBG funds to provide afterschool programs for low-income children and summer jobs for low-income youth, as well as to build recreation centers and parks to provide a safe outlet for learning, sports and personal growth.

CDBG Creates Safer Communities. Communities use CDBG to work with local police departments and neighborhood leaders to fight crime and make neighborhoods safer places to live and work by creating and expanding neighborhood watch groups and making safety improvements to homes and businesses.

We understand that the subcommittee must make difficult decisions, however, we urge you to provide \$4.2 billion for the CDBG program in the FY23 THUD Appropriations bill. Thank you for your consideration of this request and your continued support of community development and revitalization.

Sincerely,



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator



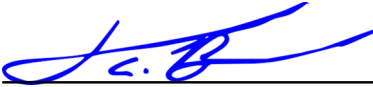
Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator



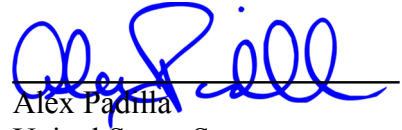
Tina Smith
United States Senator



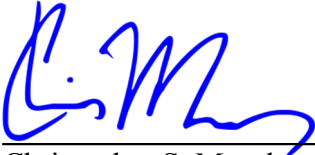
Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator



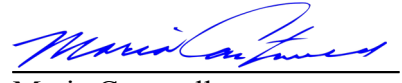
Cory A. Booker
United States Senator



Alex Padilla
United States Senator



Christopher S. Murphy
United States Senator



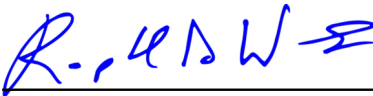
Maria Cantwell
United States Senator



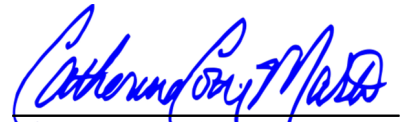
Christopher A. Coons
United States Senator



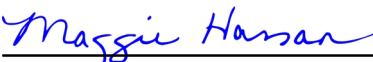
Thomas R. Carper
United States Senator



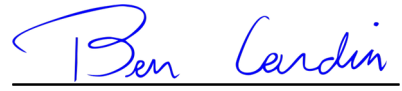
Raphael G. Warnock
United States Senator



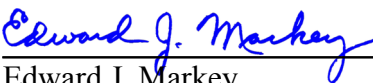
Catherine Cortez Masto
United States Senator



Margaret Wood Hassan
United States Senator



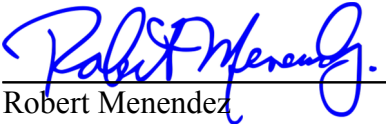
Benjamin L. Cardin
United States Senator

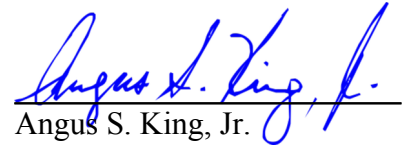



Edward J. Markey
United States Senator




Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator



Robert Menendez
United States Senator

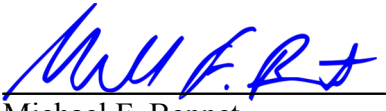

Angus S. King, Jr.
United States Senator



Jack Reed
United States Senator



Mazie K. Hirono
United States Senator

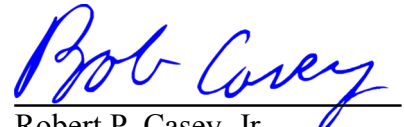

Mark R. Warner
United States Senator

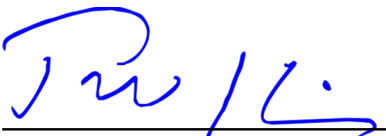

John Hickenlooper
United States Senator



Michael F. Bennet
United States Senator



Chris Van Hollen
United States Senator


Sherrod Brown
United States Senator



Robert P. Casey, Jr.
United States Senator


Tim Kaine
United States Senator



Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator




Jon Tester
United States Senator



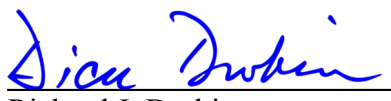
Gary C. Peters
United States Senator



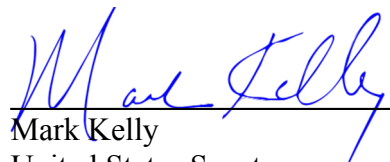
Debbie Stabenow
United States Senator



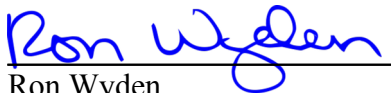
Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator




Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator




Mark Kelly
United States Senator



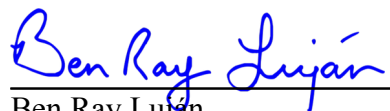
Ron Wyden
United States Senator




Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator



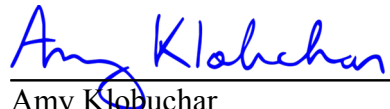
Bernard Sanders
United States Senator



Ben Ray Lujan
United States Senator



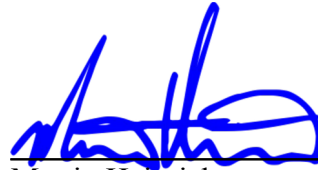
Jacky Rosen
United States Senator



Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator



Kyrsten Sinema
United States Senator



Martin Heinrich
United States Senator



Jon Ossoff
United States Senator